

# The GARZETTE

January, 2002

Volume 11, Issue 11



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## From the Oval Office

*By Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, GARS President*

Happy New Year! Hope all of you enjoyed a Holiday Season filled to the brim with blessings, and now prepared to face a brand new year with a fresh sense of expectation and hope. Even if you aren't into that whole New Year's Resolutions thing, there's something totally exciting about starting out with that pristine calendar in front of you, just waiting to be filled up with all of the possibilities of things to come. May the year 2002 be



kind to all of us.

GARS didn't have a regular meeting in December, but that doesn't mean that GARS members weren't involved in any amateur radio activities. There was another meeting of the Richards Middle

School Amateur Radio Club early in the month, under the leadership of SHARON CARTER, KG4HKO. This is the same school that a bunch of us visited last spring to do that all-day-long amateur radio extravaganza presentation, so we're particularly excited about it being chosen as the 2nd pilot school for the ARRL's Big Project. Enthusiasm is still high among the students. The seeds have

*(continued on pg. 4)*



**Is it possible to do CW Mobile? Let Bill Carter, KG4FXG tell you about how much fun it can be, in his article on page 6.**

## THE GARZETTE

*The GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to N1TOQ@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

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*The GARZETTE* is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK, does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. Dan Keohan KF4YSU, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

**Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.**

For any additional information contact:

Newsletter Editor:  
Barry Zoll, N1TOQ  
(770)277-5175  
N1TOQ@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor



## GARS Elmers

Many of us Hams got interested in the hobby as a result of some influence and experienced Ham had on us. In my case, a ham stopped at my dealership back in the mid-80's to arrange a repair on his outboard motor. He had a funny looking license tag on his yellow Corvette and I inquired what it was. Little did I know, he would be my "Elmer".

The GARS organization is blessed with a lot of talented members that are willing to share their knowledge. The following list is made up of those individuals willing to serve as Elmers. Hopefully, this list will grow, and in time, maybe we'll get more who are willing to add a particular area of expertise.

KF4KSE David Moon (770) 279-9924 mobile radio installation  
KG4IUM Andrea Hartlage (770) 963-2715 making QSL cards  
N1TOQ Barry Zoll (678)-339-2605 Generators and Standby  
Power

Bill Carter, KG4FXG, Mobile CW

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

WE5O Ron Langston (770) 569-8354  
N1TWX Win Jackson (404) 869-1347  
W4WKP Johnnie Fearon (770) 466-6401  
WB2YAD Duane  
WB9JSW, Carl  
K4MJK Mike Kovak  
K4CB Carter Bennett (770) 923-5446  
W4ADE Ade Wirth (770) 614-3743  
K4HBI Mike Swiderski (770) 449-0369  
W8KJM, Barney Barnes (APRS)

If you'd like to be a GARS Elmer, please email the editor of the Garzette at N1TOQ@arrl.net or call 678-339-2605.

## GARS 2002 Non-Stop Excitement!

2002 is off to a great start and we've got a busy few months ahead of us.

**January**— during the January meeting, we will be taking nominations for club officers for the coming year. Please contact Susan Swiderski, AF4FO at AF4FO@arrl.net with a nomination. Serving the club is a great honor!

**February**— the Dog Show will be held on February 1st, 2nd, 3rd at the Atlanta Expo Center. This is a great time for all and helps GARS keep the "lights on". Have you ever seen Marty Fowler, KE4MLH, being chased by a pack of Whippets? To schedule a shift, contact Marty or Ike Chapman, K4WEC at K4WEC@arrl.net.

### What about the Tech Fest????

**March**— Due to scheduling conflicts in January and February, the Tech Fest will tentatively be held on March 23, 2002 at the Central Baptist Church. If you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact Barry Zoll, Tech Fest Chairman at 678-339-2605 or N1TOQ@arrl.net

### STAY CONNECTED!

- Call the nets
- Attend the Meetings
- Use the Email List
- Check the Website
- [Www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)



## GARS

### Officers President

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO

### Vice President

Sid Williams, K4SID

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Sharon Carter, KG4HKO

### Treasurer

Dan Keohan, KF4YSU

### Activities Manager

Bill Ahls, ABOKF

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Ron Langston, WE5O

David Adcock, KA4KKF

## COMMITTEES

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Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

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Carol Gann, KG4ETR

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Eddie Foust, WD4JEM

### Tech Fest

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ (770)277-5175

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Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

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### Legal Counsel

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### Apparel Manager

Bill Carter, KG4FXG

### Holiday Party Chairman

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

### QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

### Webmaster

Mike, K4MJK

### Scholarship Chairman

Carter Wood, AG4LK

### CW Net Manager

Ron Langston, WE5O

♦♦♦

## From the Oval Office

*(Continued from page 1)*

definitely been sown; it's up to us to help nurture that interest and guide these students as they learn.

On the 18th, some of us visited Sweetwater Middle School. The week before Thanksgiving, at ANDREA HARTLAGE, KG4IUM's, request, some of us helped her with a presentation for a group of her classmates. (You should've SEEN the power point presentation that she did!) Anyhow, the enthusiasm there was so high among both the students and the teachers, that they decided to start an amateur radio club, too! The kick-off meeting on the 18th drew so many students that the media center had 'em literally packed in.... awesome! So, if you're one of those folks who think that kids just aren't "interested" in amateur radio, you're wrong. It's up to US to bring it to them. If not US, then WHO??? I challenge each of you to try to expose at least one youngster to the joys of amateur radio this year. January 5th is Kid's Day... why not bring a neighborhood child or two into your shack?

On the 21st, SCOTT HARTLAGE, KF4PWI, led the efforts of setting up an amateur radio station and demonstration at the movie theatre in conjunction with the opening of the movie "Johnnie Neutron". I hear that ANDREA was a real hit with the kids, letting them chat on the air with Santa. Thanks to all of the folks who participated in the event.

MIKE, K4HBI, and I had the pleasure of spending some time over the holidays with a couple of hams from South Africa, John, ZS6JON, and his wife Louisa, ZS6LU. It was really great to forge a friendship with this terrific couple who we'd been chatting with on the air for several months. I understand that BEV, K4AYQ, and WALTER BRYANT, WB4PQQ, Had the privilege and pleasure of hosting some of their Russian ham friends over the Holidays. If you noticed a marked improvement in the band conditions over that time period, rumor has it that they may have selflessly hoisted a glass or two in support of good propagation.

Say thanks to CARTER WOOD, AG4LK, who's agreed to officially accept the position of Scholar-

ship Chairman for the club. He has prior experience in this area with other organizations, so the future of the program is in good and capable hands. Isn't that great?

The first weekend of February will be the next dog show, which has been a major fund-raising event for GARS and Gwinnett ARES. I'll be sending out a reminder card to those of you who have already agreed to work it. New workers are, of course, WELCOME.... and encouraged to participate. IKE CHAPMAN, K4WEC, and MARTY FOWLER, KE4MLH, would be delighted to have a whole army of volunteers. And another reminder: GARS has adopted the 2nd Sunday of each month to man the STARS station at SciTrek. That means our next day will be January 13th. Take advantage of the opportunity to help introduce amateur radio to the public.

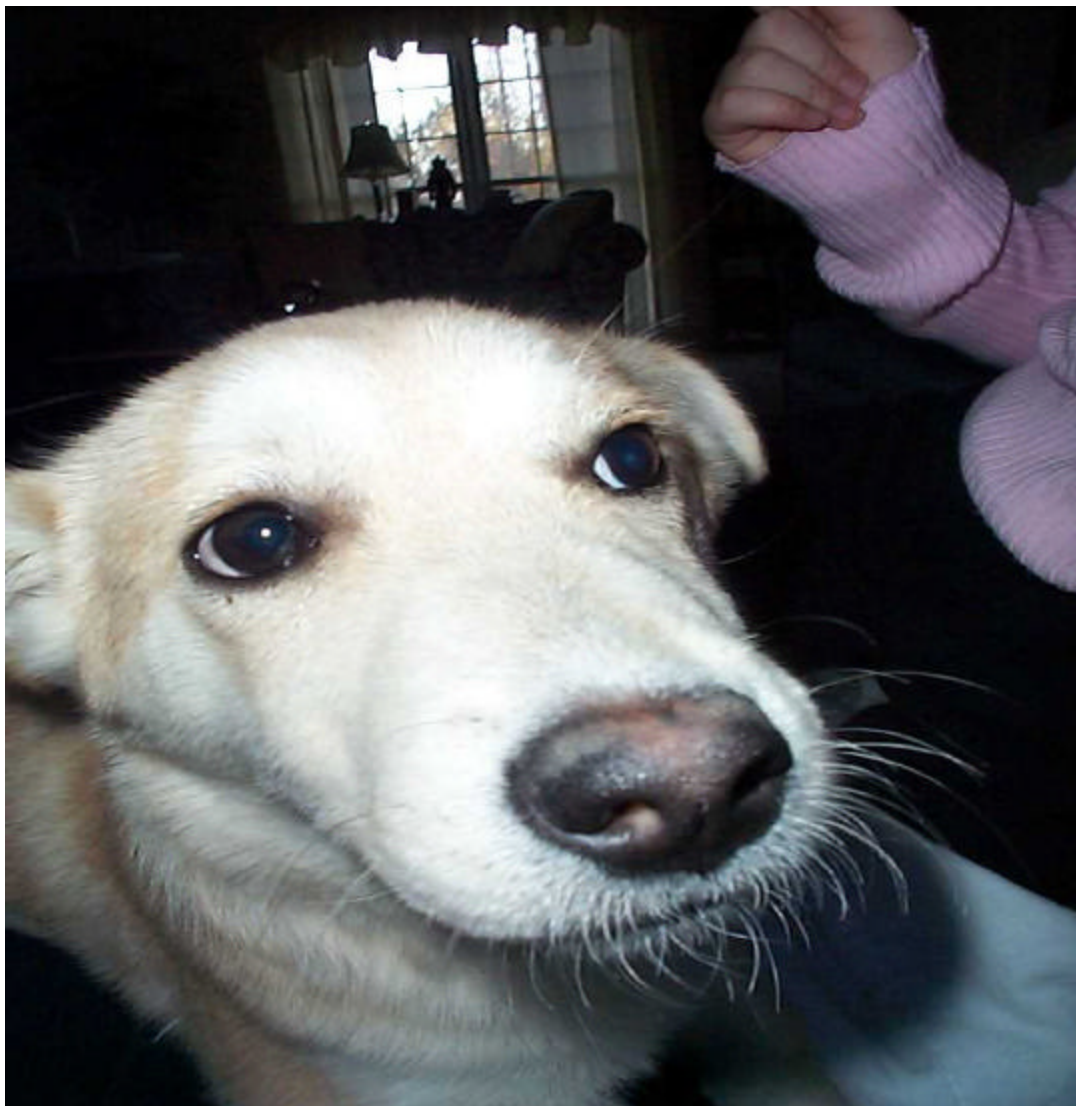
The next executive meeting will be on January 14th at the No. 1 Super Chinese Buffet on Hwy 120 in Lawrenceville.... eat at 6, meet at 7. All are welcome to attend. The club meeting will be on the 17th. We'll be accepting nominations for officers, with elections to be held at the February meeting. Please make an effort to attend because.... WARNING!!!! In the state of Georgia, it is perfectly legal and acceptable in years ending in the digit "2" to railroad.... I mean, "nominate"... individuals in their absence and without their prior agreement. So, ya better watch out! Seriously, if you are interested in running for office, please get in touch with me. I've had a terrific time.... you would, too.

Well, that's it for now, Folks. Take care of yourselves. And each other. Until next month, this is AF4FO, signing clear. 73

## **GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

### **December Meeting Minutes**

There was no monthly meeting of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society for December, 2001.



**“Me and my pals can’t wait to see Marty Fowler on February 1-3, 2002 at the Dog Show. Let’s just say that I hope he’s not allergic to rabies, ha ha ha!!!**

**Contact Ike Chapman, K4WEC@arrl.net to sign up! Don’t Miss the Fun!**

## CW Mobile

**By Bill Carter, KG4FXG/M**

I have always dreamed about doing CW mobile ever since I heard Pat, K4BEH/M on the airwaves.

WOW! You can really do that? Pat is a wonderful ham, I had the opportunity to meet him at several Hamfests here in Georgia and he was kind enough to even invite me over to see his shack. I learned so much that day!

I hate to miss the nets, but I am also involved in so many activities that I find myself out mobile many evenings wishing I could check into the nets. I am President of our local CPA (Certified public Accountant) chapter, involved in three radio clubs, part of the GEMA (Georgia Emergency Management Agency)/ARES team, and also part of MARS network (Military Affiliated Radio System). Many schedules to keep up with for a thirty-nine year old.

I must admit that CW mobile is fun. No, you don't have to do it driving. I do QNI into the slow nets driving. Tapping the paddles is as easy as using a turn signal, turning on the AM radio, or messing with the heater settings. I think CW mobile is safer than using a cell phone while driving. I said, "I think" because I have never had a cell phone, don't have any reasons to get one. I promise that if they make a law that bans sending CW from your vehicle while moving that I will abide by it!

I arrive early to most appointments and meetings. I then allow myself one QSO via the paddles in the truck. I can't tell you how many Rag Chews that I have had from my mobile rig, but there have been many and I thoroughly have enjoyed them all. One Op told me that all the CW operators are "Old Goats" and that I was the youngest one he ever had a QSO with, and mobile WOW.

My mobile set consists of the following equipment. The radio is a Yaesu FT-100D. I run three different antennas on the truck. I usually use the Yaesu ATAS antenna, which is a mini screwdriver that allows me to work 2 meters through 40 meters including 6 meters. I use a separate 2 meter/ 70 cm antenna that is mounted on the truck. I have an Out-

backer Perth Plus and several marked stingers that use only for 80 meters. I do not leave the Outbacker on the truck, as I don't want to look like a CB 'er. The Outback has a Hustler quick disconnect on it, so I can have it on the truck in a matter of seconds. I have a Yaesu FC-20 tuner in the truck for use with the Outbacker antenna. You don't use a tuner with the ATAS and probably don't need it for the Outbacker, but I worry about SWR. I use an MFJ Clear Tone Speaker because you can tilt it in the truck and I prefer its tone to any speaker that I have heard. I even use one on the QRP rig in the shack. The paddle that I use is made by Palm Radio and is a QRP paddle. Great paddle and can be found on the MorseX website. Just see [www.morseX.com](http://www.morseX.com) if you want more info about it.

The radio install was very easy. I remote mounted the face in the ashtray. A tie-wrap holds the face in place. I can even remove the face as the tie-wrap holds the back plate only. The Radio, Tuner, and MFJ Speaker are mounted on a board, which is held in place by a Bungee cord. All wires and coax enter truck under radio via a grommet that is located at the back of the cab between the truck bed and cab. Wire management is easy with only a few wire tie-wrapped together running under floor mats to front of truck that are unseen by passengers. Paddles are mounted on a cell phone holder that sits in drinking cup. Cell phone holder is removed which really is designed to hold QRP paddles.

Finally, antennas are mounted with Diamond K-400 antenna mounts. One takes the 3/8 Outbacker, the other takes the ATAS. With allen wrench and a ground strap I am on the air. I have not drilled any holes in the truck, antennas were a very easy install. If I remove all the equipment from the truck you would never know that it had been there.

I am still very new to ham radio, almost two years a CW operator. I have much to learn and I am no expert in mobile installation. I am sure my install has room for improvement. I do get a good signal into Kentucky and Illinois with this equipment. See you on the bands – maybe CW mobile!

73

Bill, KG4FXG



## On the Air with Carol Gann, KG4ETR

*By Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM*

This month's On the Air article features Carol Gann, KG4ETR. She is the PR director for GARS and recently became the ham of the year, along with her husband, Victor Gann, W4VEG. Victor and Carol Gann both enjoy working with youth and work closely with the Venture Crew 73 Scouts.

Carol Gann was born in Pittsburgh, PA and graduated from Richland Senior High School in Gidsonia, PA. She worked for a missionary called Campus Crusade for Christ for eleven years before working in Orlando at Campus Crusade for Christ headquarters, where she worked for one year. She then moved to Atlanta and worked for Mission to the World, where she now works.

Carol became interested in ham radio through boy scouts. One time, the boy scouts were on a back-packing trip, with no communications equipment. The group became split up and had trouble finding one another. Carol later discovered that an HT could prevent becoming split up.

Carol's elmer is Victor Gann. In order to study for her amateur radio exams, Carol used Now You're Talking. She read the exam questions onto a cassette tape and listened to them on the commute to and from work. In order to learn morse code, she listened to the CodeQuick tapes on her daily commute.

Carol became a licensed amateur radio operator on September 28, 1999. She got on the air for the first time and made her first contacts at field day. She started as a technician and then became a general. Her first rig was her 2-meter HT. Victor and Carol share equipment.

Carol's favorite part of ham radio is working with children. She enjoys exposing them to the hobby, teaching them, answering questions, etc. She also enjoys field day because she is exposed to new equipment, modes, and there is so much to learn. Carol enjoys working 20 M the most. She likes GARS mostly because of the people in the club. She also likes the fact that GARS is supportive of youth and welcomes them in whatever they do such as field day, techfest, and the Christmas party. The best time in amateur radio to Carol was helping children use the big, foot operated morse code key at Goldrush. Carol's most interesting QSO was one she monitored. She heard some hams from Germany speaking German and found it very interesting to listen to their language. She would like to have more international QSOs. Carol gives this advice to new hams. "Do a lot of listening because you learn a lot by listening."

## **Metro Atlanta Club Meetings**

### **First Tuesday**

#### **Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers**

Old Hickory House  
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody  
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.  
Talk In 145.410(-)

#### **Kennehoochee ARC**

First United Methodist Church in Marietta  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### **First Thursday**

#### **Atlanta Radio Club**

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

#### **N.E. Georgia ARC**

Jefferson Civic Center  
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from  
Jefferson  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)

#### **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

Shoney's Restaurant  
Holcomb Bridge Road at Grimes Bridge Road  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

### **Second Thursday**

#### **Alford Memorial Radio Club**

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road  
Lilburn  
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### **Second Saturday**

#### **East Atlanta LAN**

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
Dunwoody  
Meeting is at 10:00 AM  
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

### **Third THURSDAY**



#### **Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**

Central Baptist Church  
Gwinnett Drive  
Lawrenceville  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.  
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



## **Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule**

**GARS** publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

### **First Sunday**

WCARS VEC  
2:00 PM  
(Except July and September)  
Johnson High School  
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville  
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

### **First Saturday**

9:00AM  
Clayton County Emergency  
Management Building  
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro  
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

### **Second Tuesday**

7:00PM  
Walton EMC  
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770)498-7759

### **Second Saturday, Odd Months**

CA VEC  
8:30 AM  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Verone, W4ETN  
(770)978-3179

### **Third Saturday**

CA VEC  
9:00AM  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave  
Marietta  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ  
(770)955-3171

### **Fourth Tuesday**

ARRL VEC  
7:00 PM  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770)942-6466.

### **Fourth Friday**

W5YI VEC  
7:00 PM  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road  
Lilburn  
Headphones Provided!  
Howie Gould, W9HG  
(770)921-8362



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## **GARS Communication System**

### **6 Meter Repeater**

53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz  
82.5 PL

### **Main Repeater Site**

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### **2 Meter Repeater**

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

### **Main Repeater Site**

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### **Backup Repeater Site**

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### **Remote Receive Sites**

Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### **70 Cm Repeater**

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

### **Main Repeater Site**

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### **Remote Receive Sites**

*Under construction*  
Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

### **APRS**

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR/Relay



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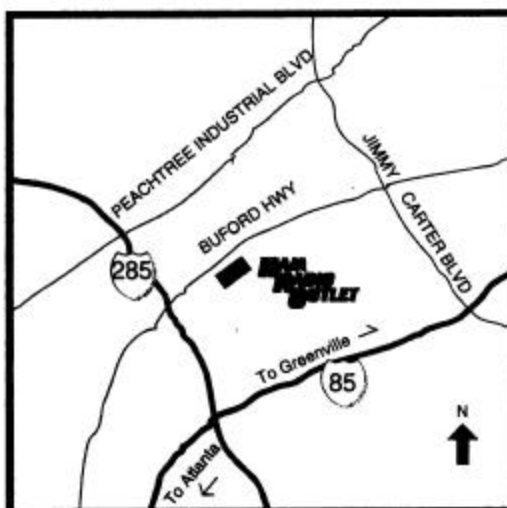


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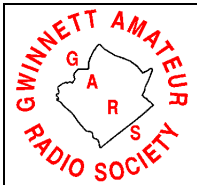
Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Mark Justice

**GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO  
SOCIETY**

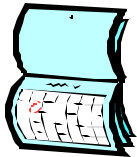
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Receive the **Garzette** via email...  
contact Scott Hartlage,  
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## Upcoming Events

*Committee Chairs:*

*Let's fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!*



### January 2002

Executive committee  
**17th** GARS Club Meeting  
25-27 Venture Crew Winter  
Fest

### February 2002

**1-3** Dog Show  
Venture Crew SW Radio  
Building  
Executive committee  
**21st** GARS Club Meeting

### March 2002

Venture Crew Caving Trip  
Executive Committee  
**21st** GARS Club Meeting

Meeting Time  
&  
Location

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM  
Central Baptist  
Church,  
Gwinnett Drive,  
Lawrenceville  
Talk in 147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone